

Message Text

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62

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 DRC-01 /072 W

----- 130890

R 121415Z JUN 74

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3307

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 0575

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SF

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCES SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES FOR
WHITE AND BLACK WORKERS IN PUBLIC SECTOR

FOLLOWING CABINET MEETING JUNE 11 PRIME MINISTER VORSTER ANNOUNCED
THAT ALL 760,000 CENTRAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT WORKERS (INCLUDING
ABOUT 400,000 BLACKS) WILL RECEIVE SUBSTANTIAL WAGE OR SALARY
INCREASES EFFECTIVE JULY 1. HE INDICATED THAT INCREASES WILL TAKE
INTO ACCOUNT GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN NARROWING WAGE GAP BETWEEN
WHITE AND NON-WHITE WORKERS BUT DID NOT EXPLAIN HOW, LEAVING DETAILS
FOR MINISTERS CONCERNED TO ANNOUNCE AT LATER DATE. SPECULATION IS
THAT INCREASES WILL HAVE TO RANGE FROM MINIMUM OF 10 PERCENT TO
WELL OVER 15 PERCENT TO COMPENSATE FOR UNPRECEDENTED RISE IN
COST OF LIVING SINCE LAST PUBLIC SECTOR RAISES IN JANUARY 1973.
SINCE TOTAL ANNUAL PUBLIC SECTOR WAGE BILL IS NOW APPROXIMATELY
2 BILLION RANDS, MINIMUM 10 PERCENT ACROSS-THE-BOARD INCREASE
WOULD AMOUNT TO WHOPPING AND INFLATIONARY 200 MILLION RANDS.

DEGRACE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: WAGES, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, MINORITIES, COST OF LIVING WAGE ADJUSTMENT
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Draft Date: 12 JUN 1974
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Event:
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